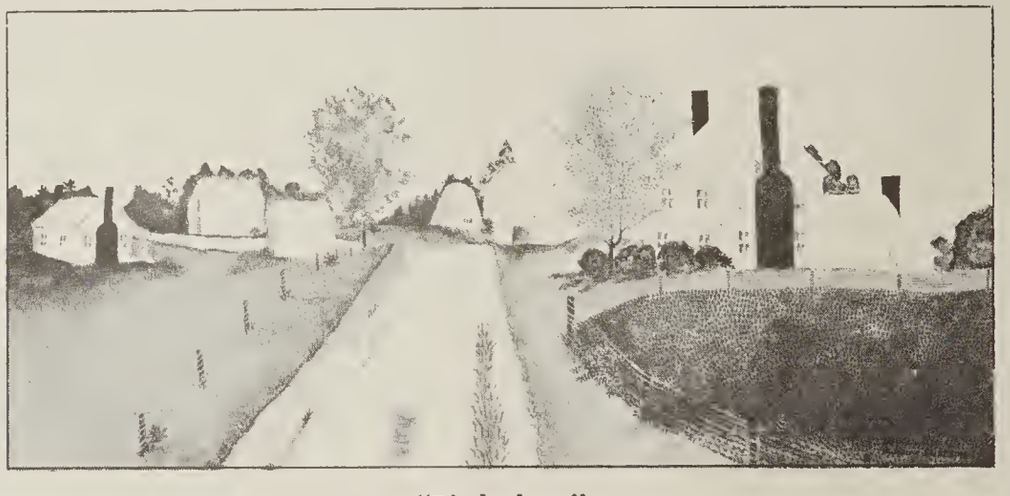
Carolina Country

June 1977

COVER PRINTS IN FULL COLOR

Carolina Country **offers full-color reprints of the original painting reproduced on the cover of the May magazine.**



"Birthplace"

"Birthplace" is an original oil painting by Dianne Saintsing Horton, depicting her Davidson County home on Saintsing Knoll.

The 200-year-old house was assembled with wooden pegs, each labeled in sequence with roman numerals. Originally, the kitchen was separate from the main structure. It features 11-inch solid plank walls, 10-foot ceilings with hand-carved moldings and four fireplaces. Other buildings are a barn with 22 stables, two tobacco barns, a smokehouse, packhouse, corn crib and tenant house.

Saintsing Knoll is the home of the artist, her five-year-old son Vincent, her brother Nicky and her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Julian H. Saintsing.

The painting, Ms. Horton said, is a personal expression of the values she learned in her "birthplace" — values "such as tranquility, the secure feeling of family living, and our debts to the past and to those who have built before us."

Ms. Horton, who took art courses at Davidson Community College and High Point College, has a degree in engineering drawing. She is employed as an electrical draftsman for Consultants and Designers, Inc. in Winston-Salem.

Full color prints of "Birthplace" may be ordered by using the coupon below They are printed on quality paper with a border, making them suitable fo framing without additional matting. The larger, limited edition print, measure 19" by 33". Each of the larger prints is signed by the artist. They are priced at $3 The smaller prints, measuring 11" by 14", are $8. Both prices include taxes an mailing costs. Allow three weeks for delivery.

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(Mail order to: "Birthplace", Carolina Country, P.O. Box 27306, Raleigh, N.C. 27611. Make checks or money orders payable to Carolina Country.)

Lifeline Rates: Over-rated "Hero"

If supporters of lifeline electric rates were to dramatize their view of the issue on film, they might well draw on some of the images from the flickering melodramas of the silent screen:

The "damsel in distress" would undoubtedly be cast as a gray-haired elderly widow who is tied helplessly to the rails by a black-clad, mustachioed "villian" of a power company, as the fearsome locomotive of high electric rates looms in the distance.

See related stories on pages 26-27

Lifeline rates would be the dashing, white-hatted "hero" of the scenario, galloping into the scene on the stallion of consumer rights to rescue the fair damsel from her dreadful fate.

It would make an effective portrait of the issue—pointed and vivid, with the visual impact of a political cartoon.

It would also be totally misleading.

A more realistic picture of lifeline rates would call for a major rewrite of the script for this epic:

The "hero" might well release the helpless widow from her bonds, but he would pay a high ransom for her freedom—someone else must be forced to take her place on the rails.

He might choose one of the widow's younger and more affluent neighbors, or the friendly fellow who runs the general store in town, or both.

Editorials

The "damsel" may ride off into the sunset with her "hero," but someone must be left behind in the path of that oncoming locomotive.

Although the new ending is not nearly so palatable as the first, it is far more authentic. Even so, it doesn't tell the complete lifeline rates story.

To do that, the elderly "damsel," must be joined by other, financially-able consumers who would also benefit from the "hero's" last-minute rescue.

In addition, some other elderly consumers and some low-income families might have to be left on the rails because their power use patterns would mean low-use discounts can't rescue them from high electric bills.

Injecting these elements of realism into the consumer activists' acclaimed lifeline rates melodrama quickly transform it into a sad, unappealing tale that would be a loser at any box office.

The Passing Scene

Since Amy Carter is now getting about 2,000 letters a week, we can't help wondering if the Plains lemonade stand magnate has considered the potential gold to be mined from the correspondence. If she takes her cues from some previous White House tenants, her biggest problem may be deciding whether "Letters to Amy" would do better as a book, a movie or a TV series.

★★★★★

Sign posted in a patch of dying grass in Raleigh's state government office complex: "Sick Patient—Absolutely No Visitors!" With the legislative building on one side and the administration building on another, perhaps the Environmental Protection Agency needs to check the area for noxious fumes before the infection spreads.

Carolina Country

Read Monthly In More Than 260,000 Homes

Vol. 9 No. 6 June, 1977

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In This Issue...

6 People

8 Profile of Hillsborough

14 Hardhats on Campus

26 Lifeline Electric Rates

COVER—Kenneth Starnes of Rt. 2, Waxhaw, who is a member of Union EMC, skims along the water at Cane Creek Lake in Union County in his 390-horsepower speedboat. The county-owned lake, covering 320 acres, was developed for flood protection and recreation purposes. It serves about 1,200 people daily. The photo was taken by Bob Wachs, editor of the *FCX Carolina Corporator*, and was featured on the cover of the February issue of that publication. We are indebted to him for the use of the photo for our cover.

rural electric Notebook

ENERGY PLAN PRICE TAG

The U.S. Office of Management and Budget Director Bert Lance estimates the cost of President Carter's proposed energy package at between $7 billion and $15 billion for a period extending through 1985.

He also estimates that the energy proposals would cost the federal government an additional $1.2 billion to $2.6 billion in the fiscal year which begins in October.

Lance cited figures by the Council of Economic Advisers which show the inflationary impact of the package as adding another one-quarter to one-half a percentage point to the cost of living in the next four years. The administration is seeking some sort of "mechanism" to help low income families deal with the increased costs.

POWER COSTS TO DOUBLE

The cost of producing electricity could double or triple by the year 2000 despite technological advances, a utilities research organization has concluded.

The Electric Power Research Institute, which is sponsored by 500 electric utility companies nationwide, says that as the technological advances are being developed, most of the power in the U.S. 23 years from now will come from nuclear reactors or coal-fired generators as demand for coal skyrockets.

1976: RECORD YEAR FOR REA

Rural Electrification Administration loans for 1976 totaled $5.2 billion for the electric and telephone programs, establishing a new record high for the federal agency.

"This is the highest for any 12-month period in the 41-year history of REA," said REA Administrator David A. Hamil. "The previous yearly high was $2.8 billion in 1975."

In 1976, North Carolina EMCs received 19 insured loans amounting to $19,321,000.

Hamil noted that during the year, REA borrowers sold an estimated 121 billion kilowatt hours of electricity, about nine billion more than in 1975.

ENERGY USE UP

Reversing a two-year decline in energy consumption, U.S. energy use rose 4.8 per cent in 1976, according to the U.S. Department of Interior. Total energy use would have been higher except for "conservation efforts, especially in the industrial sector," said Interior Secretary Cecil D. Andrus.

HUNDREDS . . . AND HUNDREDS OF RURAL FAMILIES JOIN UP EVERY MONTH!

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J. K. STERN

Former: President, American Institute of Cooperation
Trustee, American Country Life Association

"The years have taught me that adequate insurance at minimum cost is as important to the folks in rural areas as is electricity — and in my opinion C.I.F. is dedicated to serving that need. For this reason more than anything else, I am happy to be on the board and to help in some measure to further the success of this program."

Ken Stern
C.I.F. Vice President/Director

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Now you can "CO-OP" YOUR HOSPITAL BILLS . . . through the **"CO-OP INSURANCE FUND."** For most rural residents this plan provides their first opportunity to belong to an "Insurance Group" . . . and buy GROUP protection at low GROUP rates.

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Mrs. Ruth Redman
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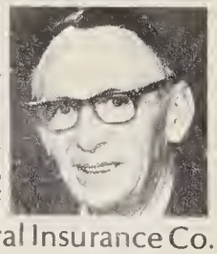
NC-6

People

Jimmie L. McDonnal of Rt. 4, Monroe, has been named a national winner in the 4-H alumni recognition program. McDonnal, who is general manager of Sally Mac Farms, is one of eight winners selected by the Agricultural Extension Service. The winners, who were selected for community leadership, public service, service to 4-H and career accomplishment, will be honored at the National 4-H Congress in November.

Six North Carolinians attended the 1977 National 4-H Conference in Washington. The group was selected through statewide interviews by State 4-H officials. They were **Sarah Howey,** Rt. 6, Monroe; **Patsey Moseley,** Garysburg; **Miriam Nance,** Rt. 2, Jamestown; **Terry Bass,** Rt. 2, Lucama; **Larry Revelle,** Rt. 1, Ahoskie; and **Dale Safrit,** Rt. 14, Salisbury. Bass and Safrit are N.C. State University students and Revelle is a student at N.C. Central University. All others are high school seniors.



William G. Greenlee of Rt. 3, Marion, has been re-elected to a three-year term as director of the four Nationwide Insurance companies and to a one-year term as board chairman of Nationwide General Insurance Co. Greenlee operates a 300-acre farm where he breeds Aberdeen Angus and serves as vice president-treasurer of Greenlee Lime and Stone, Inc. of Marion. He has been a Nationwide Insurance director since 1971.

A Wilson County teacher-librarian and a Lumberton assistant principal have been honored by the North Carolina Association of Educators. **Joyce Proctor Beaman,** a member of the faculty at Saratoga High School, won the 1977 Terry Sanford Award, recognizing creativity and innovation in teaching. **J. F. Cummings,** assistant principal of Moore Middle School in Lumberton, won the NCAE Human Relations Award. Both awards were presented at the organization's convention in Asheville.

Foy D. Mendrix of Oklahoma has been named conservaton agronomist with the Soil Conservation Service in North Carolina, succeeding **Emmett R. Waller, Jr.,** who has been appointed state resource conservationist.

State Rep. Ruth E. Cook of Wake County has been named Consumer Advocate of the Year by the North Carolina Consumers Council. The award was given in recognition of her active support of consumer issues in the 1977 General Assembly. It was presented at the organization's 1977 Annual Meeting in Raleigh, where Rep. Cook was also elected president of the council for the coming year.

Mary Bell Graham of Taylorsville, president of a corporation operating three rest homes, has been named Small Business Administration Person of the Year for North Carolina. The 68-year-old widow, a former housekeeping supervisor at Alexander County Hospital, was recognized when she had dinner at the White House along with the winners of the SMA honor in the 49 other states.

Eldon F. Sloan, a rural mail carrier for Rt. 1, Broadway, has been named a member of the Million Mile Club of the National Safety Council for driving more than one million miles without a preventable accident.

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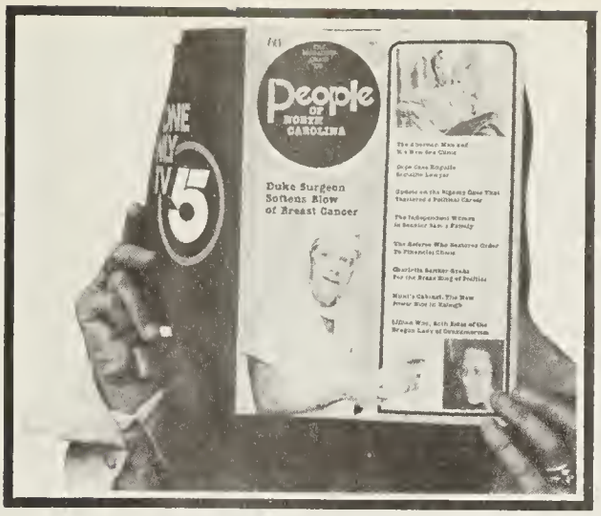

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After only a short time, many readers are calling **People of North Carolina** the most interesting magazine in our state.

We think you'll agree. This bright new magazine gives you the lowdown on such people as **Paul Fleming,** physician turned abortionist; **Ruth Carter Stapleton,** the president's sister in Fayetteville who once wanted to die; **Governor Hunt's parents** in Rock Ridge and his new cabinet in Raleigh; **Jim Goodman,** a 33-year-old who was handed the reins of power to one of the state's largest broadcast empires; Entertainer **Arthur Smith;** Chief Justice **Susie Sharp; William Cobb,** whose double life ruined his political future; the independent women in **Senator Sam's family;** a Duke Surgeon who rebuilds the breasts of women with breast cancer; child abusing parents; a young woman who is literally "back from the moon" after an experience with a bizarre religious cult; **Donna Fargo,** "The Happiest Girl in the Whole USA"; plus dozens of others.

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HILLSBOROUGH

TOP—Two courthouses greet motorists as they enter Hillsborough. ABOVE—The old Orange County Courthouse, built in 1844, houses a clock crafted in Birmingham, England, about 1769. Allen A. Lloyd, keeper of the clock, winds it about every three days.

Photos and text by Spencer Carter

Hillsborough, a town whose name is almost synonymous with state history, has been called the "Williamsburg of central North Carolina."

However, this town on the Eno River has one up on Virginia's colonial capitol. Most of Williamsburg was restored with Rockefeller money — in some cases it was necessary to actually dig up foundations and rebuild from the ground up.

Little Restoraton

But Hillsborough has needed relatively little restoration. Fine 18th and 19th century homes have been passed on within families from generation to generation.

Bill Sharpe in his "New Geography of North Carolina," characterized the town when he said that in Hillsborough "old homes and churches shaded by equally old groves of large trees hem in the stores and dominate the atmosphere."

More than 115 late 18th and 19th century structures still stand in greater Hillsborough lining streets with pre-revolutionary names: Churton, King, Queen, Tryon, Wake, Margaret Lane and others. Ambling down tree-shaded Tryon Street past the 1772 Nash-Hooper House, it is easy to imagine that the clock has been turned back 200 years.

Laid Off By Churton

Hillsborough, seat of Orange County, was "in the Year of our Lord One Thousand Seven Hundred and Fifty-Four laid off into a Town and Common by William Churton, Gentleman" on 400 acres granted to him by the "Rt. Honble John Earl Granville," as the old deeds say.

First Named Orange

First named Orange, it was changed several times before "Hillsborough" stuck in 1766. The name is from the Irish peer, Willis Hill, Earl of Hillsborough, secretary of state for the colonies from 1768 to 1772 under George III. Through a special act of the

(Continued on page 10)

LEFT—The Nash-Hooper House was built in 1772 by Gen. Francis Nash. William Hooper, signer of the Declaration of Independence, purchased it in 1781, and it remained in the Hooper family for 72 years. It was later the home of Governor William A. Graham. Cecil Sanford, retired diplomat, and brother of Governor Terry Sanford, is the current occupant. BELOW—The Colonial Inn, built in 1759, is a favorite eating spot for area residents and tourists.

ABOVE—A bronze marker and concrete slab, enclosed by iron fencing, mark the spot where six Regulators were hanged in 1771. The Regulator movement sought to "regulate" the unjust collection of taxes by Tories. Those six met their fate after the Battle of Alamance. LEFT—Restoration of the 1837 Burwell school included the resurrection of the Carrie Waitt Spurgeon Garden. Iona Dority, left, and Ruth Pender, members of the Hillsborough Garden Club, did most of the planting for the project.

(Continued from page 9)

General Assembly in 1965, the original spelling of the town's permanent name was officially revived. It had been shortened to "Hillsboro."

During colonial times and afterward, Hillsborough was a center for social and political activity. It was the scene of the War of Regulation, 1768-1771; the Third Provincial Congress, 1775; five General Assemblies, 1778-1784; Board of War Session, 1780; the occupation by troops of Charles Lord Cornwallis, 1781; the Tory capture of Governor Thomas Burke, 1781; and the Constitutional Convention, 1788.

"Who's Who"

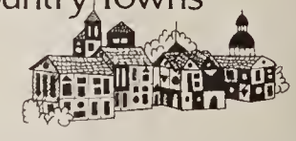
A list of residents and visitors to Hillsborough during that time would read like a "Who's Who" of late 18th and early 19th Century North Carolina. In addition to political figures, wealthy eastern planters also came to the town with their families during summers to escape miasma and mosquitoes. Hillsborough had progressed from an outfitting post for the frontier to a center of urbane elegance.

Today's Hillsborough residents are a mixture of furniture and textile factory workers, college professors, retirees, Durham and Chapel Hill commuters, and people in the business

(Continued on page 11)

ABOVE—St. Matthew's Episcopal Church, built in 1824, is one of several historic churches in Hillsborough. It was built on land given by Chief Justice Thomas Ruffin, whose grave is in the churchyard. LEFT—Hugh Wells, owner of the Olde Car Shoppe, works on completing the restoration of a 1933 Packard. He also restored the 1931 Model A Ford which sits beside the rare Packard, and the 1951 Kaiser in the background. The shop does both mechanical and body work on classic and antique vehicles. Cost varies from $5,000 to $10,000 per vehicle for restoration.

Carolina Country Towns



(Continued from page 10)

community. J. B. Rhine, a Duke University professor who pioneered research in parapsychology, lives in the area, as does former State Senator Don Matheson. Dr. Alexander Heard, president of Vanderbilt University, owns a home in Hillsborough, where he plans to retire in a "couple of years."

A number of people are practically "waiting in line" to buy historic homes, according to retired businessman Clarence D. Jones. He said that ten years ago "you might've had trouble finding a buyer."

Quaint Atmosphere

Part of the appeal, of course, is the quaint atmosphere. Even new structures in Hillsborough, including public buildings, are colonial in style. A city ordinance requires it.

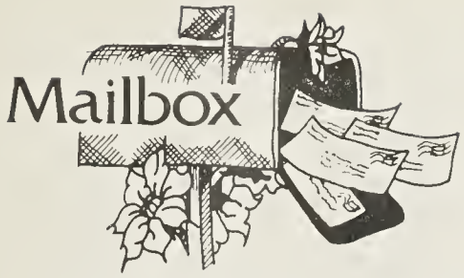
Town Hall, a former residence, is one of the few renovated buildings in Hillsborough. It includes a conservatory, several outbuildings, and a working well. A brainchild of Mayor Fred S. Cates, the project has been called the "most unusual" town hall in America.

Hillsborough has the largest police force per capita and the lowest property tax rate of any municipality in the state. It has a completely automatic water treatment plant and a new waste treatment facility that will recycle discharge water back to industrial users—a facility that Cates says is the "envy of the Southeast."

Control Growth

Plans are to control growth carefully. Most residents of Hillsborough think the town is about the right size just as it is. The town fathers are interested in new industry, but they want clean industry that doesn't require much water.

They want to keep the quaint town on the Eno River a good place to live, preserving their monuments to the past as they prepare for a quiet yet prosperous future.



I truly enjoy each issue of *Carolina Country* that I receive. I am not from North Carolina and I have learned a lot about the state through each publication. I also feel a lot better about my electric bill each month!

Deborah G. McGinnis
Fayetteville

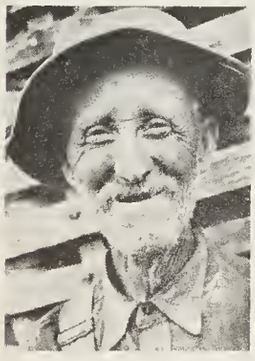
Knowing my interest in solar energy, a friend brought the April issue of *Carolina Country* by my office several days ago. I was indeed fascinated by "Summing Up Solar" (I have collaborated in the design of two residences which utilize solar collectors) and other articles—to the extent that I would like to subscribe. Please start my subscription with the April issue.

William Sloan
Architect, High Point

I have just had an opportunity to read your April issue and, before the day gets older, I wanted you and your staff to know how impressed I was with this issue—the balance, the layout, the special features. Excellent! (It usually is excellent—this one just particularly took my eye.)

Rebekah Rivers
Washington, D. C.

Rebekah Rivers is a former employee of Carolina Country who now serves as a government policy specialist with the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association.



Is there any possibility you could locate a copy of the September, 1955, *Carolina Farmer*? The front cover has a photo of my wife's grandfather and there is no other known photo of him. Should you only have one copy, I would like to make some arrangement to have a copy made of it. Any help you can provide will be appreciated.

Gene S. Moser
Wallburg

No copies of the magazine were available, but Max Tharpe, the Statesville photographer who made the picture, came up with a print of it. The photo has been sent to Mr. Moser, compliments of Carolina Country.

How Safe Is Nuclear Energy?

There is so much awe and mystery surrounding nuclear energy that its use has created a national controversy. At your EMC, we have a booklet which we hope will clear up some of the misunderstanding. It is written in easy-to-understand language. And we hope every EMC member will take the time to read it. Come by your local EMC for a free copy. Or write North Carolina's Electric Membership Corporations, P.O. Box 27306, Raleigh, North Carolina 27611.

We're All In This Together. EMC

Q: What are the sources of nuclear waste?

A: High-level wastes, the kind we're most concerned about, are produced when uranium is consumed in power reactors. The equivalent of about 9,000 gallons a year is produced by one large power reactor. That's about enough to fill a small swimming pool. Low-level wastes come from uranium mine tailings and the litter and paper collected from nuclear plants.

Q: How dangerous are the high-level wastes?

A: They are as dangerous as other industrial poisons and must be isolated from man's environment as long as they are hazardous?

The management of waste is one of several issues related to nuclear energy which have stirred controversy and misunderstanding across the country. An in-depth review of those issues is presented in a new publication which is now available from North Carolina's EMCs. It's titled "Some Plain Talk About Nuclear Power." See ad, page 11 for information about how to obtain copies.

Managing Nuclear Wastes

Q: How much of this high-level waste are we accumulating each year?

A: The 58 commercial power reactors licensed for operation in America as of May, 1976, are producing the equivalent of 200,000 gallons a year.

Q: How can you handle so much hazardous liquid safely?

A: First, the military has been storing these liquids safely for 30 years. But more important, we won't store them as liquids. The wastes will be reduced to a powder and then bound with inert materials to form a glass-like substance that is fireproof, waterproof, rugged and chemically stable.

Q: What will you do with that radioactive glass?

A: The most likely procedure is to surround it with stainless steel and store it in a very deep layer of salt or granite below water tables in areas that have been geologically stable for millions of years.

Q: Won't that require a lot of space underground?

A: Not at all. The process of solidifying the waste concentrates it tremendously. For example, the 9,000 gallons of waste from a single power reactor reduced to a cube of glass about the size of an office desk. For example, if there were 200 power reactors operating in 1985, we could store the waste produced by those plants over ten years in a volume equal to the amount of ore that comes out of a typical lead mine in just one day.

Q: Don't you worry that since these wastes remain radioactive for thousands of years they may someday return to haunt future generations?

A: They would be a risk if they reentered man's environment and the chances of that are extremely low. That's because, to return these wastes to the surface, it probably would take a catastropic earthquake or eruption of such magnitude that any civilizations at that point already would have been destroyed, and even if returned to the surface, the wastes would be in the form of glass that would not be picked up and scattered by the air or water.

Q: Well, if waste management is so well understood and secure, why hasn't the industry begun burying it as you have described?

A: Because the federal government hasn't decided exactly which of several alternate methods it wants to adopt. Currently, the quantities of waste are still so small there is no sense of urgency, so government planners are taking their time to be sure they have selected the best method. We are now ready for a speedy decision by the government.

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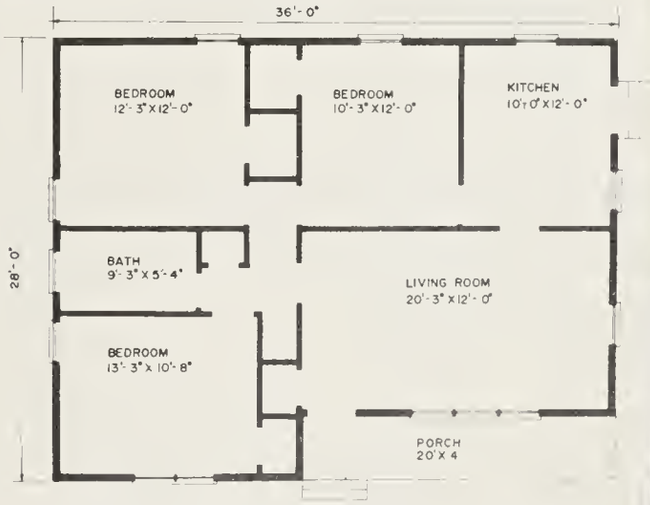

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One portion of the new program at Caldwell Community College involves training apprentice linemen to feel at ease when climbing on power poles. During an exercise, four apprentices on separate training poles attempt to keep a basketball aloft and moving. This helps the novice climber to overcome a natural fear of moving while hanging in a safety belt.

Hard Hats On Campus . . .

Hard hats and shoes with spikes have become appropriate campus dress for some of the students at Caldwell Community College and Technical Institute near Lenoir.

A training facility there for apprentice linemen has been established by North Carolina Electric Membership Corporation, with the assistance of Tarheel Electric Membership Association, several equipment manufacturers, and Blue Ridge EMC.

Apprentice linemen with less than three years experience on the job are going to the school from EMCs across the state.

Over a span of four years, the novice linemen are completing 160 hours of training on campus in conjunction with regular on-the-job training at the electric cooperatives where they're employed.

(Continued on page 15)

Taking part in a groundbreaking ceremony for a training area recently constructed on the Caldwell Community College campus for use in training electric co-op employees are, left to right, Don Stokes, Southern Wood Piedmont; Earl Shoaf, TEMA; Lloyd Hunter, Joslyn; Lee Simpson, Southern Wood Piedmont; H. Edwin Beam, CCC & TI president; Bob Moretz, Blue Ridge EMC; Mark Bennett, area consultant; Bill Armfield, CCC & TI vice president of administration services; Dan Stalling, CCC & TI vice president of instruction; Gene Carpenter, CCC & TI dean of continuing education; and N.C.EMC job training and safety coordinator Kyle Roberts.

(Continued from page 14)

The program included basic training in bucket work, transformers, underground installations, rope characteristics, names and inspection of tools, basic principles of electricity, equipment operations, Rural Electrification Administration specifications, and cooperative philosophy.

Kyle Roberts, N.C.EMC job training and safety coordinator, says each apprentice lineman who completes the program will meet requirements of both the N.C. Department of Labor apprenticeship training program and the Veterans Administration's apprenticeship training standards.

At the end of more than 8,000 combined hours of training, program participants are recognized as journeyman linemen.

The apprentice lineman training program at Caldwell Community College is the first program of its kind in the state, although there is an EMC training facility at Wayne Community College near Goldsboro for advanced lineman training.

Roberts says the Lenoir facility, with its poles, guy wires, cross arms, insulators and other equipment, has "all the structures needed in any training program offered to EMC personnel."

Materials valued at about $8,500 were donated by the Tarheel Electric Membership Association, Southern Wood Piedmont, Joslyn, Anderson, and Engineering Sales of Carolina. Blue Ridge EMC, with headquarters in Lenoir, was instrumental in planning and developing the training facility.

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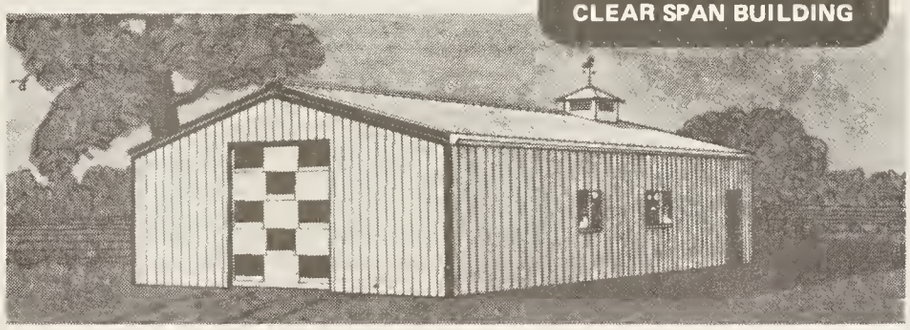

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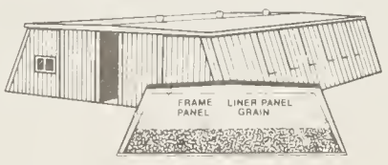

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REVAMPING THE CAMP

A campaign is underway by the North Carolina Future Farmers of America Foundation to raise $1 million for the reconstruction of the FFA Camp at White Lake.

Plans are to tear down existing pre-World War II structures in the Fall of 1978 and build a new complex designed by architects Hackney, Knott and Sears of Durham. The new facility will house 300 boys and girls, plus 80 staff and guests. One building will serve as a combination kitchen, dining hall, recreation and conference center. Gazebo-type structures will be built along the lake front for dancing or fellowship.

The FFA Foundation has the support of leaders throughout the state including Governor Jim Hunt and Secretary of Agriculture James A. Graham.

Hunt said he had been personally involved in the "opportunities the FFA provides for leadership and citizenship development."

"There will be a great need in the future for continued and expanded opportunities of this kind for our young people," he said. "I heartily endorse the North Carolina FFA Foundation because I believe this Foundation will help to assure the continuation of meaningful experiences for FFA members in the future."

The foundation's first priority is the project at White Lake, but it is also interested in raising funds to improve the two other FFA camps, in Swansboro and Barnardsville. It will also eventually support an incentive awards and recognition program for the N.C. FFA Association.

The FFA is a national organization of teenage boys and girls enrolled in vocational agriculture programs in high schools. Nearly 40,000 are enrolled in North Carolina. The N.C. FFA Association is an organization of the FFA groups throughout the state.

The three camps in North Carolina came into existence following the establishment in 1917 of vocational agriculture programs in the state's rural high schools.

A shortage of camping facilities became apparent as teachers began using field trips as educational experiences. In 1926, Dr. Clyde A. Erwin, state superintendent of public instruction, took on the responsibility of securing and operating camps for all students of vocational agriculture.

The original campsite at White Lake was leased to the FFA in 1927. To construct buildings and make other improvements, $7,395 was borrowed and subsequently repaid in 1933 from camp receipts and donations. The land was later purchased.

The Barnardsville camp was acquired in 1937. The Swansboro camp went into operation in 1958.

The R. J. Peeler FFA Camp at White Lake

For additional information about the FFA Foundation, write the North Carolina FFA Foundation, Inc., P. O. Box 1143, Dunn, North Carolina 28334.

Thread And Nails Make Decorator Items

Stitchless conversation pieces ...here's a fascinating and exciting new art form. Beautiful thread "pictures" are made by wrapping different colored threads around nails in pre-determined designs. The 3-dimensional decorator pieces pictured here are only a few of the ten designs offered in our new instructional guide. The full selection includes a clipper ship, hot air balloon, a spiral and other abstract designs. These subjects will enhance any decor.

All you need to get started is common sewing thread, nails, plywood, some fabric and a tack hammer. The patterns show the location of each nail. Once these are in place, you simply wrap the thread around the nails in accordance with the easy-to-follow instructions. Full-size patterns and threading directions make all the projects extremely easy. Our instructional guide suggests the color scheme for each project and even gives an exact count of nails required. They're exciting gifts for young and old alike ... make one or make them all. And remember, you don't need a studio workshop for this art form. A kitchen table or card table is all the space that's required, so it's perfect for apartment dwellers.

To obtain all the patterns in our Thread Art Instructional Guide #552, send $2.50 (includes 1st class postage and handling) by check or money order to: **Steve Ellingson; Carolina Country Pattern Dept.; P.O. Box 2383; Van Nuys, California 91409.**

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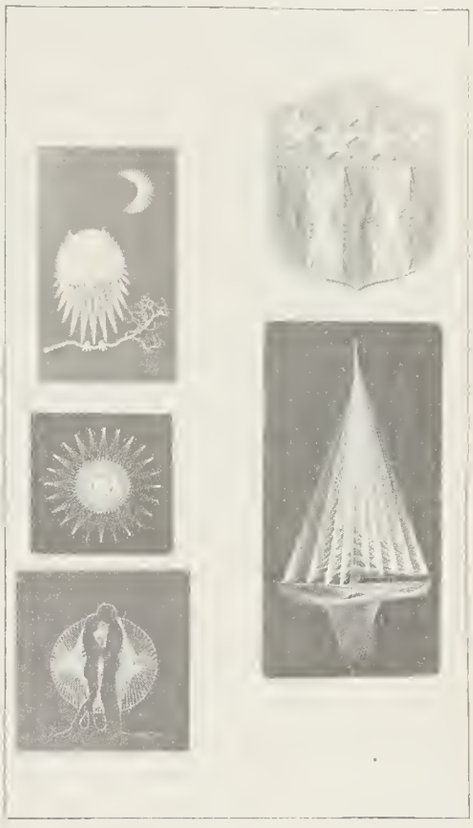

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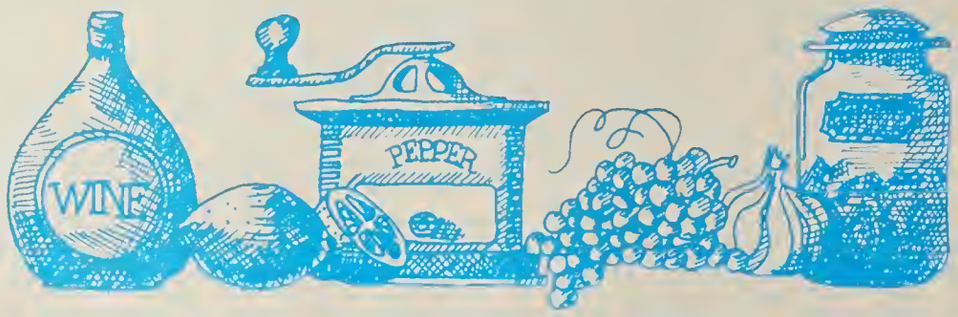


MY FAVORITE FRUIT SALAD

Helen Smith's "Favorite Fruit Salad" will easily become yours!

This refreshing frozen dessert is a perfect addition to the light luncheon plates of summer. It will also add the sweet finishing touches to your special buffet.

Give it a whirl in your kitchen. Neighbors, friends and family will be clamoring for more!

If you would like to share a recipe with this column, send it to: Country Kitchen, P.O. Box 27306, Raleigh, N.C. 27611. We pay $5 for published recipes.

COUNTRY KITCHEN RECIPE

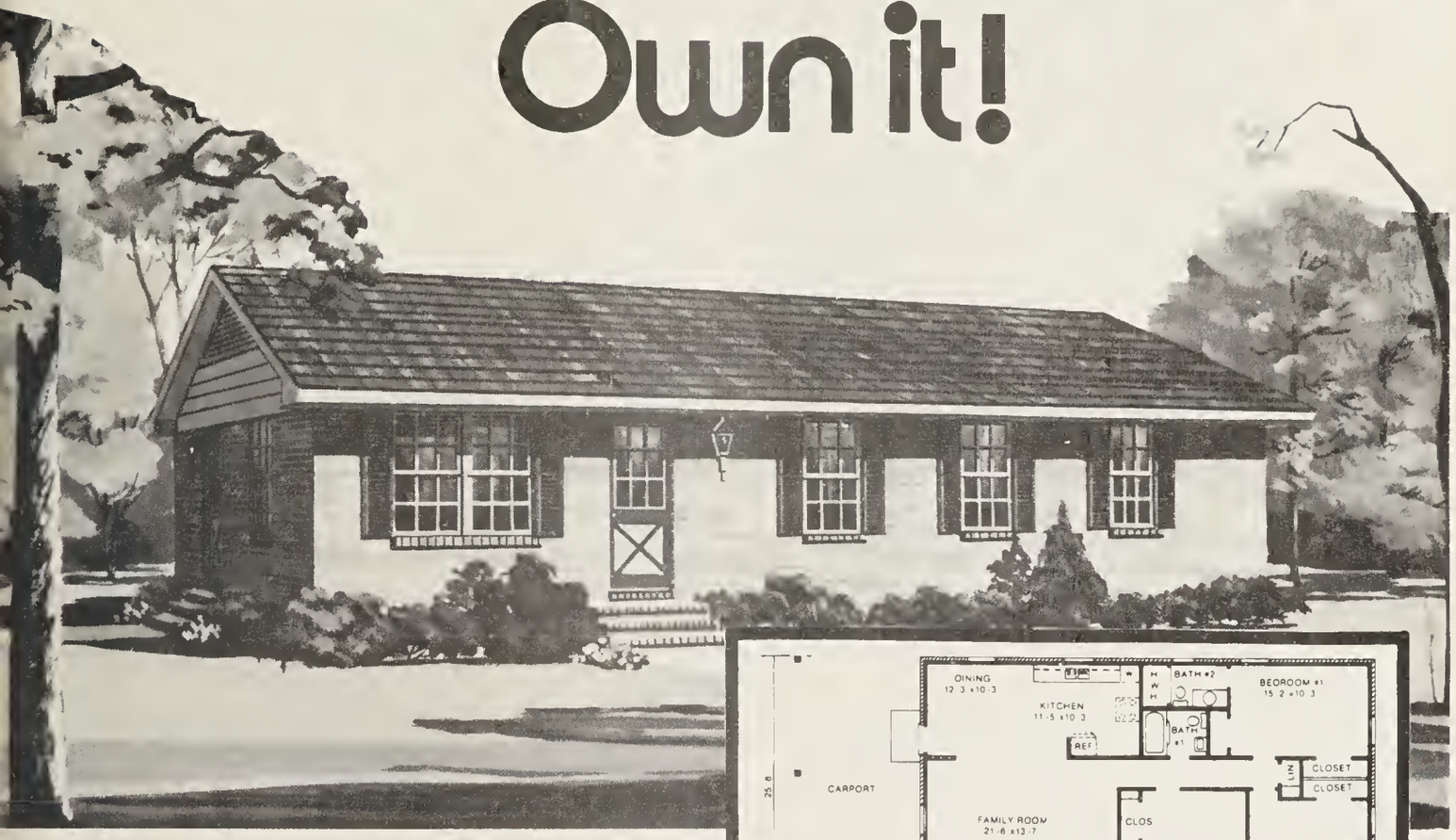
Submitted by Helen Smith of State Road, N.C.

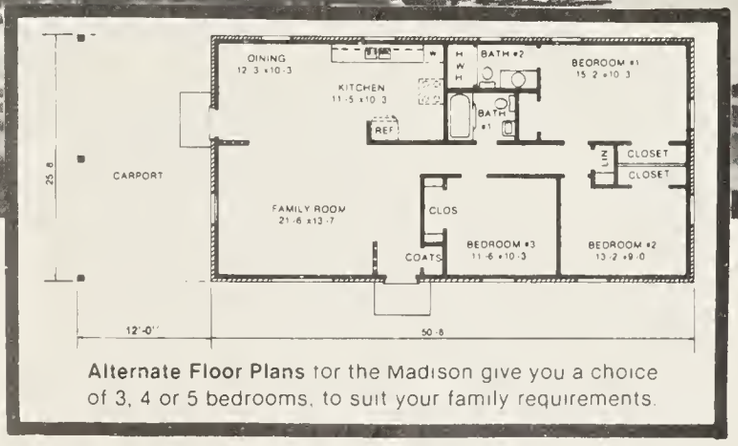
My Favorite Fruit Salad

3 T. vinegar
3 T. flour
1 T. sugar
2 eggs
1 pt. whipped cream
1 lg. c. sliced pineapple
1 pkg. marshmallows
1 jar red cherries
1 c. chopped nuts

Drain pineapple and mix juice with vinegar, flour and sugar. Stir and cook until almost thick. Add two well-beaten eggs and cook a few minutes more. Chop coarsely pineapple, cherries, nuts and marshmallows (or use miniatures). Stir into cooked mixture. Fold in two cups whipped cream. Pour in large baking dish, cover and freeze. Yield: 12 servings.

Why just dream it? Own it!





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child abuse hurts

It all started back in 1875 in New York City when a child named Mary Ellen was the victim of abuse. Those who wanted to help called the only help available: the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals.

Child abuse is as old as parenthood itself, but it has been only recently in our history that we have become aware of its implications for both the parent and the child involved. That everyone is a potential child abuser is, alone, one of the more sobering aspects of this many-faceted problem. There are no chosen few who become the targets of child abuse or neglect.

"Child abuse is very real," said Dwyer Sump, who heads the Statewide Child Abuse and Neglect Public Awareness Campaign (SCANPAC). "It can hit every family in every community without respect to social status or how much we love our children."

A group of more than 30 volunteers from organizations throughout the state, the SCANPAC membership is concerned about and involved in the prevention of child abuse. The group has been working for the past year to alert North Carolinians to the presence and dimensions of child abuse and neglect in the Tarheel State.

Whether we might like to admit it or not, child abuse has become a serious problem in the state. Since July 1, 1971, when the Child Abuse Reporting Law went into effect, at least 25,000 children have suffered from neglect or abuse in the state; at least 100 have died as its victims.

The law requires that "any professional person who has reasonable cause to suspect that any child is an abused or neglected child, or any other person having knowledge that a child is an abused child, shall report the case of such child to the director of social services of the county where the child resides or is found."

While each of the state's 100 counties has a department of social services, the Child Abuse Reporting Law makes it clear that child abuse is a community responsibility, and a civic duty of each member of each community.

According to a recent SCANPAC statement, "many neglected or abused children do not come to the attention of those who could help because both average citizens and professional people are often very reluctant to report neglect and abuse.

"A person who knows that a child is being neglected or abused, but does not report it, is breaking the law—as well as preventing help from reaching the child and his family," the statement emphasizes. "Any person making a report in good faith is immune from civil or criminal liability. The name of the person making the report will be kept secret."

What is child abuse and neglect?

Child abuse or neglect can be a very common oversight by those who love the child or it can be a purposeful act of aggression or violence:

—Leaving a child in a closed car on a hot summer day is child neglect.

—Shaking a baby can be done with such force that it causes brain damage. That is child abuse.

—Failure to provide a normal balanced diet for a child is child neglect.

—Telling a child he is ugly and will never

Carolina Homemaker

By Margaret Howell

the child
the parent
the community

amount to anything is child abuse.

There are, of course, all too many instances of the more violent cases of child abuse spelled out for us in newspaper headlines. They include cases as bizarre as the use of electric shock against children and tales as deathly as finding little ones tied up in plastic bags in trash cans.

Abusive or neglectful parents are people with problems. They may have low self-esteem and a sense of incompetence. They may be immature and stuck at a stage in life where basic needs for love, trust and nurturance have not been met. They may have difficulty in seeking pleasure and finding satisfaction in the adult world. They may have been abused or neglected themselves as children.

Child abuse happens as a result of many problems within the family, none of which is confined to any socio-economic group, age group, sex or race.

The high-risk family might be under any one of a complex set of stressful situations—such as, the single-parented family, the family with a disabled child, the family with parents who are under emotional stress, the family which suffers from inadequate income, inadequate housing, mental illness or retardation, or alcoholism.

The state's social services system is designed to be a helping and a preventive service, not a mechanism to punish parents. Its goal is to help parents and troubled families deal more successfully with the problems or stress that leads to neglect or abuse of their children.

"Whenever possible, services to prevent further abuse or neglect are given to the family while the child remains at home," SCANPAC members say. "If a court removes a child because his life or emotional health are in danger, the goal is to work toward reuniting the child with his family as soon as possible."

As the public awareness group notes, "Being a parent is one of the toughest jobs in the world. Everyday pressures can become unbearable. Sometimes a parent may strike out at someone they love, their child perhaps. Many parents need someone to turn to ... someone who understands ... someone who will listen and try to help. There are two victims of child abuse and neglect. One of them is the child. The other is the parent. Both need help."

YOU CAN HELP . . . 2,000 children will die this year from child abuse and neglect. That's more than Typhoid Fever, Diptheria, Scarlet Fever, Polio and Smallpox combined. There is no vaccine. Only you can help. To get help, or give help, call your county Department of Social Services.

Cheer!

George Peterson, a member of Crescent EMC, sent in the following food for thought:

"It has been rightly said, 'coming events cast their shadow before them.' If the Equal Rights Amendment should become a law of the Land, could the following story be a 'shadow of coming events?' "

The story was told of a man who had family arguments with his wife for a long period of time. Then one day he bragged to his buddy how that he finally had gotten his wife down on her knees.

His friend said, "This sounds very interesting. Tell me more."

"Well," said the bragger. "While my wife was still down on her knees, she yelled to me ..."

"Come out from under that bed, and fight like a man."

******

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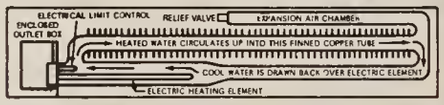
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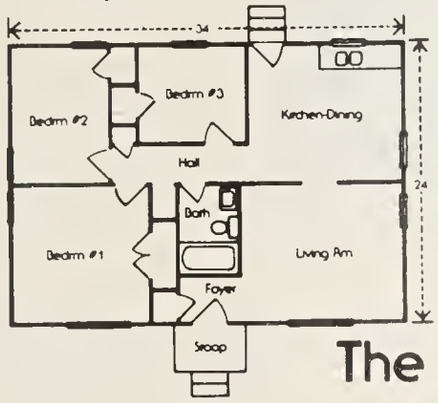

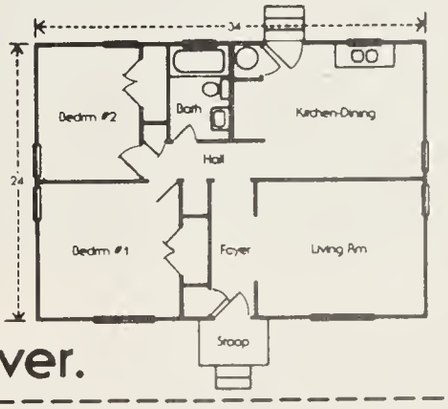

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Six EMCs Face 26% Rate Increase

An increase in wholesale power rates, which will boost the cost of power for both electric cooperatives and municipal power systems in North Carolina and Virginia, will be sought by Virginia Electric and Power Co., according to VEPCO officials.

See "Commentary," Page 25, for related editorials.

The increase will raise the cost of power for the cooperatives by 26.3 per cent or $15.4 million a year, and for the municipalities by 33.5 per cent or $12.3 million a year.

Six North Carolina Electric Membership Corporations would be affected by the increase: Albemarle, Hertford; Cape Hatteras, Buxton; Edgecombe-Martin County, Tarboro; Halifax, Enfield; Roanoke, Rich Square; and Tideland, Pantego.

Plans for the rate hike were announced in letters from VEPCO to the 19 co-ops and 21 municipal systems in Virginia and North Carolina which buy wholesale power from the company.

VEPCO's senior vice president for commercial operations, William W. Berry, said the firm will submit its new rate schedule to the Federal Power Commission on or after June 15, calling for the increase to become effective 30 days later.

In the letters, company officials asked for negotiations with the wholesale customers regarding the rates "in the hope we might reach a mutually acceptable agreement in advance of filing" the formal applications with the FPC.

The increase is designed to yield a 9.84 per cent rate of return from the wholesale customers, Berry said, adding that the firm now receives a 7 per cent rate of return on wholesale sales.

LEFT—North Carolina EMC officials visiting Fifth District Rep. Steve Neal, right, included, left to right: Harold Dean Brewer of Rt. 1, Red Springs, a director of Lumbee River EMC, Red Springs; Mack Shoaf of Rt. 5, Winston-Salem, a director of Davidson EMC, Lexington; Elias Rogers of Rt. 1, Red Springs, vice president of Lumbee River EMC; Ralph Beane of Rt. 1, State Road, president of Surry-Yadkin EMC, Dobson; and Hugh Crigler of Lexington, manager of Davidson EMC.

EMC Officials Visit Tar Heel Congressmen

About 50 managers, key employees and directors from 18 North Carolina EMCs visited members of the Tar Heel Congressional delegation and their aides recently to discuss legislative issues of interest to the state's rural electric cooperatives.

They were among about 1,200 rural electric leaders from 42 states who participated in a national legislative rally sponsored by the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association.

Among the issues discussed were financing of the REA loan program, the relationship between REA and the proposed Department of Energy, and the funding of hydroelectric and other water resource projects.

BELOW—Two representatives of Rutherford EMC, Forest City, chat with 11th District Rep. Lamar Gudger, center. They are Oliver Taylor of Rt. 1, Mill Spring, secretary of the EMC, left, and L. T. Gibbs, manager of the EMC.

commentary:

Rate Hike "Outlandish"

Virginia Electric and Power Co. says it will ask the Federal Power Commission for substantial rate increases for its wholesale customers.

The power company wants a 33.5 per cent increase for 21 municipal wholesale customers and a 26.5 per cent increase for 19 electric cooperatives.

The increase will affect customers in Greenville, Winterville and Ayden, since their power is purchased wholesale from VEPCO. It will also affect various co-ops in this area.

The requested increase is outlandish, particularly in view of the fact that VEPCO has had to absorb none of the increased fossil fuel costs. The municipalities and the co-ops should fight this proposed increase in every way possible.

The Daily Reflector
Greenville

Rabbits "Shot In The Nest"

We look with sadness at the announcement by Virginia Electric & Power Company that it is seeking to raise electric rates to rural electric cooperatives in the amount of $15.4 million or 26.3 per cent and to municipalities in the amount of $12.3 million or 33.5 per cent.

The Federal Power Commission will be asked to approve the two requests. Now make no mistake about truth. If VEPCO is successful in getting the FPC to allow such heavy increases, then we all know that the people buying from municipalities will eventually be paying the bills.

How in the world our people can stand such big increases is beyond us. We repeat our recent theme, so often heard here, that when our people have to pay more for electricity than they are paying for rent, we are in deep, deep trouble.

Twinge Of Sadness

No one can possibly read the announcement without suffering a twinge of real sadness. We feel so very sorry for those elderly people on fixed incomes, for the young people starting out housekeeping with heavy bills to pay, for the workers who already are finding it even more difficult to make ends meet, and for the small business people who are trying to hold the business together.

Does VEPCO need such an increase? We want an answer to that question. And we want it known here and now that we do not believe it to be so, and it just appears to us that the amount requested is exhorbitant and unnecessary.

We do not say that it is either brutal or that it represents blood-letting. We want to make that point clear. We do say that it is far too much in our opinion.

Now REA has a big stake as the following are served by VEPCO: Cape Hatteras EMC, Halifax EMC, Albemarle EMC, Tideland EMC, Edgecombe-Martin County EMC, and Roanoke EMC.

The municipalities buying wholesale from VEPCO and then retailing electricity include Belhaven, Enfield, Greenville, Hertford, Scotland Neck, Washington, Edenton, Elizabeth City, Hamilton, Hobgood, Robersonville, Tarboro, and Windsor.

Retail Consumers Not Affected

Retail customers now being served by VEPCO are not affected, according to the announcement.

Each of us in our own way can now choose some measuring rod and try to think in terms of how this proposed increase, if allowed, will hit us and hurt us.

We do not need politicians to tell us it can be painless. It cannot. It will not. We are being hit a terrible blow if this big increase is allowed.

What can we do? Really, we are like a rabbit being shot in the nest. It does no good to run because we cannot run away, and it hurts just to sit there and suffer through it.

If allowed, the increases begin around July 15. That surely will be a sad day here as Washington, Belhaven, and Tideland EMC all will have only one choice — to go up in rates with VEPCO.

It is only darkness or light. And that represents a rather impossible choice.

—The Daily News
Washington

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Lifeline electric rates have gained a reputation which ranks them right alongside Mom, flag and apple pie in many American minds.

After all, the reputation suggests, they're designed to help the poor and elderly by establishing low rates for a minimum subsistence level of electric service, aren't they? How could anyone with a social conscience object to that?

Images: Mom, Flag and Apple Pie

Indeed, the public image of lifeline rates is so wrapped up in the cloak of consumer rights and social reform that it's difficult to get a good look at the shape of the creature underneath.

Because of this public image, most Americans believe the rates would benefit only those consumers using less than the minimum level of electricity. But this is not the case.

If lifeline rates were adopted, they would apply for power used up to the minimum level for all consumers—young and old, rich and poor.

In addition, all consumers would be asked to pay higher rates for all of the electricity consumed above the minimum level—to offset the losses from the below-cost lifeline rates.

Say the lifeline rate applies to 350 kilowatt hours, as is proposed in legislation now before the North Carolina General Assembly. If a consumer uses 1,000 kwh per month, he would save on the first 350 kwh and pay something extra for each of the additional 650 kwh he uses. Depending on the amount of that extra charge, he may or may not find his overall bill reduced.

All of the lifeline rate proposals which have been considered across the country assume that the extra charge would have to be added for power sold above the subsistence level. Otherwise, the power suppliers couldn't recoup the losses from the lifeline sales and would soon go broke.

One alternative for setting the extra charge is to apply the higher rates to all other categories of consumption. Another is to make up all of the lost revenues within the residential category alone.

Both of these alternatives were considered by a New York economic consultant firm, National Economic Research Associates, Inc., in a study of lifeline rates a few years ago.

LIFELINE ELECTRIC RATES

Lifeline rates represent a sharp departure from traditional rate concepts in that they are designed to offer consumers a minimum level of service at rates which are below the cost of providing that service.

The costs, which have become the centerpiece around which most rate concepts have been developed, include customer costs—metering, billing, servicing, facility costs, including the cost of generation and transmission, and the cost of fuel.

A Departure From Traditional Rates

The rate structure which is in general use by most of the nation's public and private electric utilities is called the *Declining Block Rate Design.* Using this structure, the utilities establish classes of consumers such as residential, commercial and industrial, then set rates for each class according to the cost of serving them.

As a result, the structure incorporates the highest per-kilowatt-hour cost into the rates for the initial block of electric usage. Each succeeding block of consumption bears a declining per-kilowatt-hour cost.

The theory behind this design is that users of large amounts of electricity, such as businesses and industrial operations should be charged less

Rate Designs: No Bull

DECLINING BLOCK RATES

Electric rate designs certainly aren't a lot of bull, but you'd never known it from this illustration. However, these bulls are intended solely to represent consumers of electricity and how they are affected by specific rate designs. The size of the bull indicates how much electricity is consumed and the size of the feed bucket indicates the relative cost of that electricity per kilowatt hour. The bulls above show the usual approach to rates, the

EMC Revenues Would Drop $38 Million A Year

Providing lifeline electric rates with 350 kilowatt hours as a minimum subsistence level of usage would cut revenues of North Carolina's EMCs by $38 million a year.

The reduction would represent 32 per cent of the combined gross residential sales for the state's 28 rural electric cooperatives.

However, the percentage could be much higher for individual EMCs, depending on how much of its service is for residential development. The percentage ranges from 25 per cent to 60 per cent.

The lost revenue would have a "devastating effect" on the EMCs, said Alton P. Wall, acting general manager North Carolina EMC.

"The bulk of our service is residenital, so lifeline rates would hit us particularly hard," he added.

The study assumed that a power supplier sells a million kwh in the subsistence category, which in this case was set at 300 kwh. It also assumed that the required lifeline reduction is two cents per kwh, for a total cost of $20,000.

In writing about the study in 1975, the firm's vice president, Joe D. Pace, explained how the $20,000 might be recovered.

"Since the lifeline proposals generally contemplate equitable recovery from all customer classes, the most straightforward assumption is that the $20,000 costs will be spread evenly over all remaining residential, commercial and industrial kilowatt hours sold. If the utility sells, say four million kwh in these other areas, then a charge of one-half cent per kwh would be required to make up the loss.

"Given this, the residential customer using 1,000 kwh a month saves two cents on the first 300 kwh, or $6, and pays an additional half-cent on the remaining 700 kwh or $3.50 for a net saving of $2.50 a month."

Using this approach, only residential customers benefit from the rate scheme, with other classes picking up between one-half and two-thirds of the tab for the program, Pace said.

However, if the $20,000 loss were recovered entirely from the residential class, the necessary extra

(Continued on page 29)

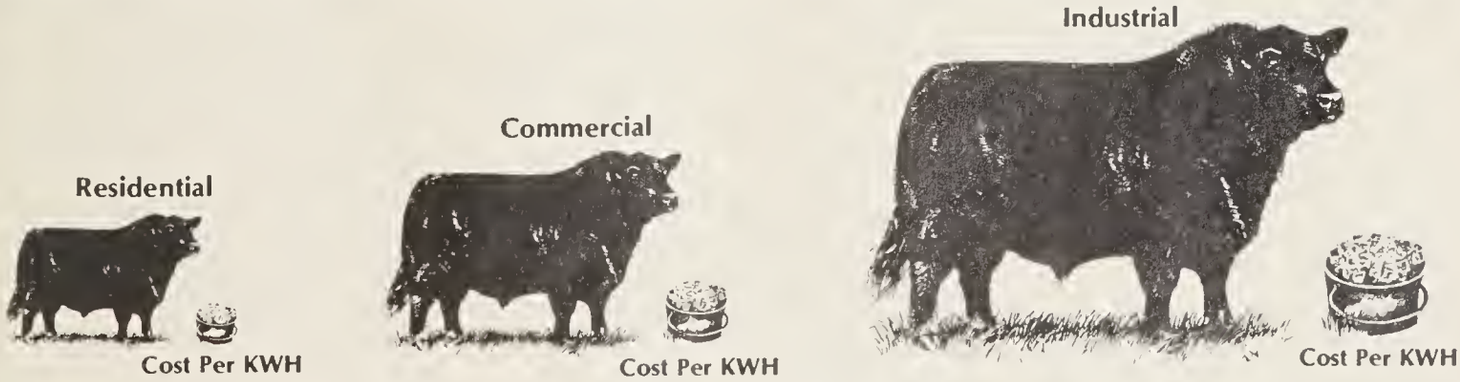
because serving them requires fewer lines, poles, meters and other equipment; and their loads can be served more efficiently than can the same load, spread across a larger residential territory.

The lifeline rate concept is but one of several alternative rate designs which are currently being considered by various utilities across the country. They include:

Flat rates, which require that each unit of energy be priced at the same rate for all classes of consumers. Advocates of this approach say that if big energy users had to pay more, residential customers could pay less. Opponents point out that this structure completely ignores the differences in the cost of serving the various categories of users, and that consumers would ultimately pay for the higher industrial rates through increased prices of goods and services.

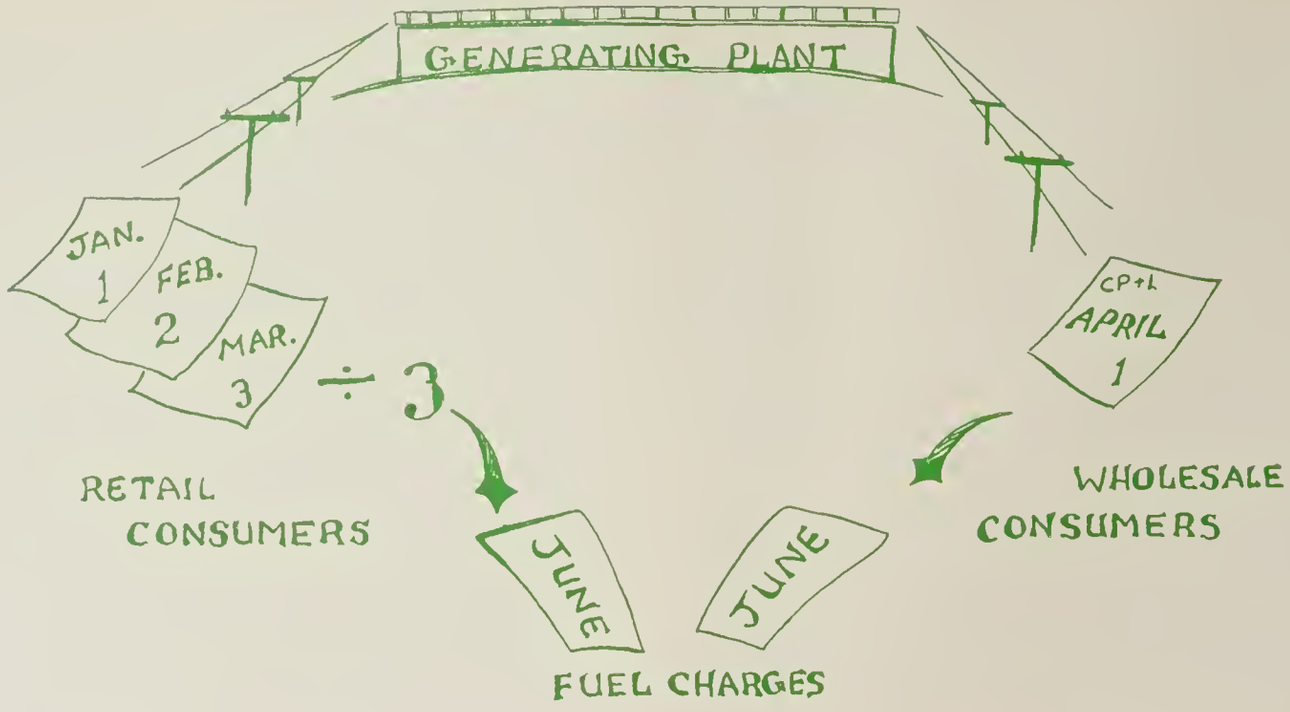
Inverted rates, where the price of energy would go up, rather than down, as consumption increases. The arguments for and against this design are similar to those surrounding flat rates.

Peak load, or cost-based pricing, which would set rates according to when it is used. The theory for this structure is that producing electricity is more expensive during periods of peak demand and, as a result, consumers should be asked to pay more for power used at times of peak demand and less at off-peak times. Some versions of this design tie the rates to the time of day, while others involve seasonal pricing schedules.



INVERTED BLOCK RATES

Declining Block Rate Design. It calls for large users to be charged less per kilowatt hour than small users. Thus the largest bull must feed from the budget with the lowest KWH cost, while the smallest bull takes nourishment from a bucket filled with the highest price KWHs available. The bulls above demonstrate how the Inverted Block Rate Design would work: the smallest bull gets low-cost KWHs while the largest bull gets expensive KWHs.



Retail Fuel Charges Vs. EMC Fuel Charges

Two Different Animals

"My neighbor and I were comparing electric bills the other day and we noticed that the fuel charge on my EMC bill was not the same as hers from Carolina Power and Light Co. Why is this?"

It's a common question, one that has been posed many times—with variations—to employees of North Carolina Electric Membership Corporations since the fuel charge came into general use in the utility industry a few years ago.

Its answer, stated in its simplest terms, is that the charges are really two different animals, although they claim a common ancestry.

Both are based on the cost of fuel. But they are computed in one way for the retail customers and in another way for the EMCs, which buy their power at wholesale rates from those companies.

Why should this be so, when the private power firms generate and transmit the electricity in both cases, using the same generating plants, facilities and fuel sources?

It's because the electric rates charged to the two groups of consumers are regulated by separate governmental agencies. The Federal Power Commission in Washington governs the rates for wholesale power, while the North Carolina Utilities Commission regulates rates for retail consumers.

As a result, the FPC sets the procedures and formulas to be used by CP&L, Duke and VEPCO in computing fuel charges for their wholesale customers, including both EMCs and municipal power systems. And, the State Utilities Commission establishes the procedures and formulas to be used by those firms in calculating fuel charges for their retail consumers.

All of the procedures require that figures for the cost of fuel used in generating power, kilowatt hour sales and various other elements must be fed into the authorized formula to compute the amount of the monthly fuel charge.

In practice, this means CP&L, for example, will apply the figures to Formula A to arrive at the fuel charge that'll show up on the bills of its retail customers. But they'll feed them into Formula B to determine the fuel charge for wholesale customers.

In addition to using different wholesale and retail formulas, the companies also use different figures for the cost of fuel as it is applied to the two categories of sales. The procedures used to arrive at those figures are also subject to regulation by the FPC and the Utilities Commission.

Since the wholesale and retail consumers are all served from the same generating plants—and the same fuel sources—the situation could be compared to an accountant keeping two sets of books for the same business transactions.

In theory, both sets of fuel cost "books" should produce the same result—fuel charges which pass along all excess fuel costs to the customer. In fact, this is not the case.

The reason, apparently, is the vast difference in the formulas used in keeping the two sets of "books."

The formula used for calculating

retail fuel charges calls for the fuel cost figures to reflect an average of the costs recorded during the most recent three-month period for which statistics are available. This means consumers' bills for June electric service will include a fuel charge based on the average cost of fuel used in January, February and March.

However, the FPC-approved formula for wholesale fuel charges requires North Carolina-based power suppliers to use only the actual cost of fuel burned in a single previous month to compute the fuel charge. On wholesale bills for June service from CP&L, then, the fuel charge would be based on actual costs recorded in April. However, under terms of an agreement between Duke Power Co. and its wholesale customers, actual costs from March would be used.

A different formula, also sanctioned by the FPC, is used by Virginia Electric and Power Co. It is based on estimates which are projected for the current month, using the most recent figures available for the actual cost of fuel. These estimates are later adjusted, up or down, to reflect actual costs.

This means VEPCO's wholesale customers' bills include two items for fuel costs—an estimated figure for the current month and an adjustment for a previous month's estimate.

The bill for June service, then, would carry:

- An estimate of fuel costs for June, based on the most current figures available for actual costs—in this case, those recorded in April.
- A charge or a credit to adjust the account for the difference between the April estimate—which would have been based on February costs—and the actual costs for April.

The purpose of all these procedures is to permit the utilities to keep their rates current in a period of rapidly rising fuel costs—without having to ask permission to raise rates each time costs go up.

The system is designed so that base rates include an established level of fuel costs, and when costs rise above that level, the extra cost must be passed on to the customer through the fuel charge. If the costs drop below it, the savings must also be passed on to the customer.

Regardless of the procedures, formulas or cost figures used to compute the fuel charge, the power companies' wholesale customers must foot the resulting bill. For North Carolina EMCs, this means passing the charges on to their consumer-members as part of the overall cost of power.

Regardless of the procedures, formulas or cost figures used to compute the fuel charge, the power companies' wholesale customers must foot the resulting bill. For North Carolina EMCs, this means passing the charges on to their consumer-members as part of the overall cost of power.

—Owen Bishop

Lifeline Electric Rates

(Continued from page 27)

charge for kwh sales above the lifeline level would go up substantially.

"If total residential sales were 2.2 million kwh, with one million billed in the under-300 kwh blocks and the other 1.2 million billed at greater levels, then the necessary surcharge is 1.67 cents," Pace pointed out.

"The consumer of 1,000 kwh a month would save $6 on the first 300 kwh, but would pay $11.69 more on the last 700 kwh for a net increase in his bill of $5.69 a month. The breakeven point would come at the 660 kwh level."

If the 350-kwh lifeline level were adopted in North Carolina, the state's private power companies would see their residential sales revenues drop by $145 million a year. And the big users of power would have to pick up the tab for those losses.

This would mean commercial and industrial operations would pay higher prices for electricity and they would, in turn, have to ask for higher prices for their products and services. It would also mean the companies' wholesale customers, including the Electric Membership Corporations and municipal power systems, would also pay higher prices and they would, in turn, have to ask for higher prices for their electric service.

As one co-op official put it: "Lifeline rates may be good politics, but they are sorry economics."

A Smudged Reputation

Another smudge on the public reputation of lifeline rates is that they may not actually be of much benefit to poor families.

Many of these families depend on electricity for such basic elements as heating, hot water and refrigeration. In addition, many live in rented homes and do not pay their own utilities bills.

A National Economic Research Associates study showed, in fact, that a lifeline plan based on a 500 kwh subsistence level would provide no benefit for 50 per cent of the poor in 14 states, including North Carolina.

The firm's vice president, Joe Pace, concluded that "benefitting low-use residential customers is not the same as benefitting poor customers."

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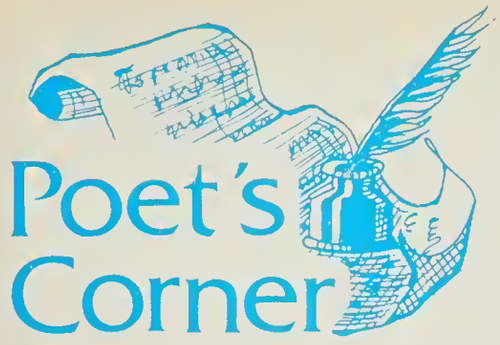

Poet's Corner

As one of her friends puts it, "Mrs. Mary McInnis is 92 years young." A Raeford resident, Mrs. McInnis tells us, "I have written something like poetry ever since I was a teenager, have been a weekly correspondent for the Raeford paper, *The News Journal,* ***for over 30 years and I still write the Rockfish News for this paper. It is the news of the Rockfish community where I live. I was a school teacher before marriage and I raised six children, five boys and one girl. I have been a widow about 30 years. I have done some substitute teaching, worked a few years in the school lunch room and also assisted in the post office here, when we had one."***

Spring in Carolina

Spring is a time of revitalization
When things dormant are coming to life.
And there's beauty in all God's creation.
When all is peace and there is no strife.
Without the coming of Spring
The ground would still be cold,
And seeds that were planted early
Would just lie there and mold.
Winter, summer and fall
Bring many blessings to enjoy
But Spring excels them all
In beauty we should not destroy.
Trees that in winter were brown and bare
Are putting on their mantles of green.
O, there is no Spring like ours
That anywhere has been seen.
Spring is a wonderful season
And with its renewing of life
It gives hope of a time to come
When all will be love and no strife.

Edith Biddix, a member of Rutherford EMC, writes, "I am a young writer. I like to write poems, stories and articles. Some of them have been published." Her poem is particularly appropriate as Father's Day nears:

Dad's Old Rocking Chair

I can see Dad's old rocking chair,
Sitting by the fireside there.
A padded seat with back and arms,
The worn out rockers hold the charm.
He would rock back and forth,
Allowing his heart peace to knoweth.
So calm and relaxed sitting there,
His mind free from worry and care
Now the chair is empty; Dad is gone,
To sit in a new one by the throne.
It's memory I treasure in my mind,
The old rocking chair, Dad left behind.

Books

Rough Weather Makes Good Timber **by Patsy Moore Ginns. (Univeristy of North Carolina Press. 191 pages. $9.50)**

By Frank Jeter, Jr.

This is a beautiful little book, the kind that lots of people keep on their coffee tables when somebody important is coming by. But it is much more than that; it is also a close inside look at a North Carolina of yesteryear that will soon be beyond recollection.

The author has faithfully recorded the words of people who were young back around the turn of the century, three-quarters of a century ago. They are old now, but they remember the way it was when families stuck together, farmed together, and ate such foods as chicken dumplings and apple pies together.

While it sometimes seems that most of those interviewed came from mountain counties such as Buncombe or Alleghany, the entire state is actually covered—Hugh Johnston, Jr., born in 1913 in Wilson County; Charles L. Revelle, Sr., 1900, Hertford County; Ethel Lutz, 1898, Cleveland; Lee Edwin Kiser, 1898, Iredell.

We read about:

- The double hanging in Buncombe in 1900.
- A mother dying in 1902—six weeks after her last baby was born in Stokes.
- The fearsome storm that shook the Outer Banks in 1933—as told by Captain Floyd Daniels of the Pamlico ferry in Carteret County.
- Cleveland County's Preacher Hayes, who had never been married—and to make things even more odd, he wore a derby hat.
- The celluloid collars that dudes once wore in Iredell County.
- Farmers who traded chicken, eggs and vegetables (in season) for a "dress length," an axe handle, or kerosene.

All these subjects, and hundreds more, help to capture the real sense of the way of life that North Carolinians enjoyed—and they did enjoy it—75 years or more ago.

Rough Weather Makes Good Timber (itself a quotation from the text) is vastly enriched by a wondrous selection of drawings by J. L. Osborne, Jr. These artistic plates, which rival fine etchings in quality and appeal, were prepared specifically for the subject matter at hand, and they do a prideful job of illustrating:

- A little country store, with leaves fallen around it.
- Mountain countryside covered with snow, the barbed wire fence in the foreground and the barns and outbuildings further back standing stark and black against the whiteness.
- A coffin, with someone in it.

By all means, this book belongs on your coffee table. It will impress any "company" that might drop by. But you're going to miss a lot if you don't pick it up from time to time, read a few pages, think about the kind of life it reflects, and meditate on how much things have changed.

(Frank Jeter, Jr. of Raleigh is public information officer for the USDA-Soil Conservation Service in North Carolina.)

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